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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>03-00133PC</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. <b>PCT/JP 03 / 11865</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>18.09.2003</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>18.09.2002</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int.Cl. <sup>7</sup> <b>B32B 15/08, C09J 5/00, C09J 9/02, B05D 1/04, B05D 7/24</b>		
Applicant <b>NIPPON PAINT CO., LTD.</b>		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand <b>05.03.2004</b>	Date of completion of this report <b>08.12.2004</b>
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP <b>Japan Patent Office</b> <b>3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan</b>	Authorized officer <b>SETSUKE ASAMI</b> Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. <b>3430</b>

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (January 2004)

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP 03 / 11865

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
  - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
  - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
- pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims:
- pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings:
- pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. Statement**

Novelty (N)

Claims

1-13

YES

Claims

NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims

1-13

YES

Claims

NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims

1-13

YES

Claims

NO

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

D1:US 5676812 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 1997.10.14  
D2:JP 3-112190 A (MATSUSHITA DENKO KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 1991.05.13  
D3:EP 854207 A1 (NIPPON PAINT CO., LTD.) 1998.07.22  
D4:EP 974624 A2 (NIPPON PAINT CO., LTD.) 2000.01.26  
D5:JP 49-102726 A (MATSUSHITA) 1974.09.27  
D6:JP 9-157621 A (JAPAN ENERGY KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 1997.06.17  
D7:EP 458296 A2 (NIPPON PAINT CO., LTD.)1991.11.27

The subject matters of claims 1-13 do not appear to involve inventive step in view of D1-D7.

D1 and D2 disclose respectively a method to producing a laminate which comprises the step (1) of forming, on each of two conductive materials, and the step (2) of joining the adhesive resin layer on each conductive material as obtained the the step (1) to each side of functional material.

D1 or D2 do not disclose an adhesive resin layer by an electrodeposition step with a cationic electrodepositable adhesive composition comprising a cationic resin composition, however such an adhesive resin layer is well-known to the public from D3-D7. The technical feature in D1-D2 and that in D3-D7 are concerned with mutually related technical fields. Therefore, the skilled person in the art would easily conceive the idea of employing the feature in D1-D2 to substitute the feature disclosed in D3-D7.

Since the cationic electrodepositable adhesive composition described in the specification is known from D3-D7 and claims 2 and 4 describe these functions, claims 2 and 4 do not appear to involve inventive step.

A cationic electrodepositable adhesive composition is an unsaturated bond-containing one and a cationic resin composition has an epoxy resin as a skelton appear to be known from D3-D7. and therefore claims 3 and 8 do not appear to involve inventive step.

**Supplemental Box**

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.  
Continuation of:

A sulfonium group- and propargyl group- as a cationic resin composition are disclosed in D3 and D4 and therefore claim 5 does not appear to involve inventive step.

D4 discloses a sulfonium group content, a propargyl group content and a total content and therefore claims 6 and 7 do not appear to involve inventive step.

D4 also discloses the same epoxy resin as in the claim 9 and therefore claim 9 does not appear to involve inventive step.

D4 discloses a drying step, a step of adhesion with heating and a step of curing by heating and therefore claims 10 and 11 do not appear to involve inventive step.

Claim 12 involves both an organic and inorganic material as a functional material and D1 and D2 disclose these materials and claim 12 does not appear to involve inventive step.

Claim 13 relates to the laminate obtained by the method of claim 1 and therefore claim 13 does not appear to involve inventive step.